18th November 1949]

Royapuram Hospital, but were subsequently withdrawn due to want of finance?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"It may be so. The fact is that we are lack of funds."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the nurses quarters in the Royapuram Hospital are very crowded and the nurses have to sleep in unhygienic conditions, which is detrimental to their health and work?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"Arrangements are well on the way to provide them with accommodation, and if even then some could not find accommodation, they may be accommodated in the new nurses quarters that is nearing completion."

Grievances of students who have been denied admission to the Engineering Colleges.

* 38 *Q.*—SRI L. SUBBARAMA REDDI (on behalf of Sri B. Bhima Rao) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations and perused communications in the Press regarding the grievances of students who have been denied admission to the Engineering Colleges in the Madras Province on the ground of their caste; and

(*b*) whether the present Government have decided to allow any percentage of admissions to be made on the ground of merit and, if so, how much?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"(*a*) The reply is in the negative.

"(*b*) No reservation on grounds of merit only has been ordered except to the extent that seats for which candidates are not available according to the prescribed communal, linguistic and district basis, will be filled up on the basis of merit only provided district and linguistic quotas are not affected."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Will Government consider the question of abolishing communal rotation for admission to colleges and other educational institutions?"

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"We allot seats according to community and according to district. The idea behind this rule is that this valuable education should be distributed among all the communities and among all the areas."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Have Government taken steps to provide accommodation for all applicants for admission, and how far have they succeeded?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"It is not practicable to provide accommodation for all the applicants. We

have now four engineering colleges; and it is not possible to add anything to it."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Have Government envisaged a time at which admission for all applicants can be given in colleges?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"Unless we add to the colleges we now have, it is not possible. We do not know whether we would be able to add to the existing colleges, as we have yet to see the three newly started colleges fully equipped."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Have Government any scheme under contemplation to add colleges so that all applicants may be given admission?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"There is no scheme at present."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Will Government consider the question of adding to the number of colleges to meet the growing need?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"As I have said, for the three colleges we have recently started we have to equip them with buildings and other things. Till that is done it is not possible to add to the number of colleges."

Revision of scales of pay of peons, etc.

* 39 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state, with reference to G.O. No. 718, Finance, dated 9th July 1949, relating to revision of scales of pay of peons, etc., under the Madras Inferior Service, whether the Government have under consideration the question of revising the scales of pay of peons, etc., under the Madras Inferior Service who have already reached the maximum of Rs. 25?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"No."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Sir, have Government recognized the need to increase the scales of pay of peons who have already reached the maximum salary of Rs. 25 and still in service. May I know why their case should not be considered favourably."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"For the obvious reason of lack of finance."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—"May I know why the same consideration, on which the minimum salary of other Government employees was raised, should not be applied to raise the minimum salary of peons?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"I have raised their minimum salary to Rs. 18."

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—"Do Government expect the peons on a salary of Rs. 18 a month to live?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Over and above that they are getting a dearness allowance of Rs. 18 or Rs. 19."